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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : PLESS et al.  
Serial No. : 09/698,357  
Filed : October 27, 2000  
Title : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ABLATING TISSUE

Art Unit : 3739  
Examiner : Michael F. Peffley

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

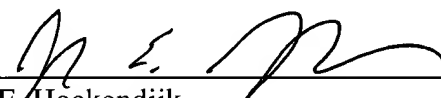
Copies of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 forms are not enclosed.

Under 35 USC §120, this application relies on the earlier filing date of application serial number 9/614,991, filed on July 12, 2000. All of the cited references were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in the prior application and, therefore, are not provided in this application:

This statement is being filed after a first Office Action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance. Please apply the information disclosure fee of \$180, and any other appropriate charges or credits, to Deposit Account No. 50-1247.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 11, 2003

  
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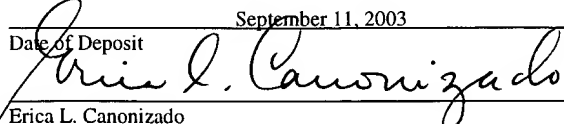
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Erica L. Canonizado